



Metanoia

Volunteer Package

Dear Potential Metanoia Volunteer;

We want to thank you for your interest in joining us in our work of experiencing the Kingdom of God through wholistic community development. We hope that you will find your experience a challenging and exciting time that increases the faithfulness of those in your group.

This document will help you to understand what is entailed in bringing a group of volunteers from your community to our own. We have a relatively 'high bar' for our volunteer groups because we want to make sure their contribution really makes a lasting change in our community. We would also invite you to visit our website for more information on Metanoia as well – www.pushingforward.org.

The most important thing you can do with this packet of information is to prayerfully consider whether your group seems a good 'fit' with the work of Metanoia. Generally, the groups that have the most positive experiences at Metanoia have solid volunteer experience already and do not need too much 'hand holding' during their time with us. We spend the vast majority of our resources on actually building a movement *within* our community so that we can do things for ourselves – so we don't have a full time volunteer coordinator to work with outside volunteers. Some groups understand and appreciate this methodology and those are the groups that will have the best experience of volunteering with Metanoia.

Included in this packet are some of the 'nuts and bolts' of getting your volunteer experience started (contracts, releases, etc.), but it is not meant to be exhaustive of all you will need to prepare for your trip. We invite you to consider your volunteer experience in communication Metanoia Staff. We stand ready to answer further questions you may have and help you to discern whether Metanoia is a good place for your group to grow or serve.

May God bless you in your desire to serve. Thank you for your consideration and please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

God's Peace,
Rev. Bill Stanfield
Metanoia CEO



VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES WHILE WORKING WITH METANOIA

Thank you so much for agreeing to work alongside Metanoia as we join with residents and friends to share God's love in our neighborhood. There are several things we would like you to know to make your volunteer experience more enjoyable.

Metanoia has three priorities for our work in our community that you can help us establish. They are . .

- **We are Rooted in Faith:** Please keep your volunteer experience with Metanoia in prayer before, during and after your visit. One error volunteers sometimes make is to think they are bringing God to our community - our community has many people of faith who are already working with Metanoia on a daily basis. We ask volunteers to come share their faith and also to learn of the faith of others in our church and community.
- **We are Community Based:** Metanoia gains its primary direction and support from local community members. Your visit has already been approved by community members who have supported your visit in prayer and meetings before your arrival. We ask volunteers to treat community members with respect and dignity equal to that of people in their own neighborhoods. Additionally, we ask that if you should see community members in leadership roles, please do not try to take over leadership roles from them (even if you may be able to do it better). If you should see community members completing a task and you want to help, please offer to help but do not take over the activity. As much as we love volunteers, we recognize that we cannot grow into our God given potential unless we are challenged to use our gifts to their fullest.
- **We are Asset Driven:** When we look at our community we try to see it for its potential and not for its deficits. As one of our board members says "we have a lot of jewels waiting to be polished." As you volunteer with us we ask that you set aside stereotypes and labels that society often places on our community and get to know people just as you would get to know people in your own churches and communities. Look for the potential in each person you meet and in each community place you visit.

In addition we find the following attributes very helpful in making volunteer experiences enjoyable for all of us.

- **Flexibility:** There will be unexpected aspects to your day and that will require flexibility.
- **Patience:** There may be unexpected down time in the day or you may find working with others in your own group or groups from the neighborhood requires patience. We

are not nearly as concerned that the work gets done as we are that people treat each other with dignity and patience.



Mission Team Application

Please Return Application and Deposit to:

Metanoia CDC
2005 Reynolds Ave.
North Charleston, SC 29405

Phone: 843-529-3014
Email: bill@pushingforward.org
Website: www.pushingforward.org

Group Name/Church Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone:(____) _____ Cell Phone:(____) _____

Email: _____

Note: All participants under 18 must have signed parental permission slip and notarized statement from both parents or guardians.

- Does anyone on your team have a medical condition that the Metanoia staff members need to be aware of? (diabetic, allergies) Please provide team members name and condition.

- Do you agree by your signature below to abide by the expectations and conduct of Metanoia's policies? _____ (no alcohol, no smoking, no sexual activity between unmarried participants, obey curfew guidelines; proper dress, other defined guidelines by the travel leader)

- Do you understand that participants who disobey these guidelines may be sent home at participant's expense? _____

Signature of Team

Leader _____ Date _____



CONTRACT AGREEMENT

We, [redacted], do hereby agree with Metanoia, to Provide Volunteer Work Services on the dates of _____. We will arrive _____ at [redacted] AM/PM and be departing _____ at [redacted] AM.

We estimate our group size to be [redacted] persons (including sponsors - 1 adult per 6 or 7 youth)

Costs: Because there are administrative and staff hours required in the coordination of volunteers Metanoia charges a per day fee to out of town volunteer groups for each day that they will be volunteering. This fee is \$100 per day to non-partnering churches and \$75 a day to partnering churches. (partnering churches are those churches that give an annual donation to Metanoia either through SC/CBF or directly).

10% payment of these fees is due with this contract with the remainder due upon the first day of your experience.

We understand that our group will be responsible for the facilitation and cost of our own lodging and meals apart from fees paid to Metanoia. (Metanoia staff are available to help with suggestions for lodging and meals).

We agree to be responsible for our own group's behavior, to select members who can adequately grow and be challenged from such an experience, bring all Release Forms for all participants (including parent signature for participants under 18), and prepare our group spiritually for the discipleship and service opportunity.

Pre-Mission Trip Orientation: We agree to send at least one group leader to Charleston in advance of our trip date in order to coordinate the best possible experience for our volunteer group.

Authorized Group Leader Date

Leader Name (Printed): _____

Group Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____



RELEASE OF LIABILITY & PARENT PERMISSION FORM

Required for the following activities: Check all that apply for this release.

___ Volunteerism in Metanoia Youth Leadership Programs

___ Construction/Work Projects

Whereas, the undersigned participant wishes to be accepted for participation in one or more of the activities listed above which is organized by Metanoia and regarding Metanoia's action in allowing the applicant to participate in such activities or programs, the undersigned acknowledges that the activity does involve certain risks. The activities are designed to allow the participant to broaden their understanding of various Christian values, socio-economic differences, ethnic and racial diversity, cultural appreciation, team building, character development, and/or enrichment opportunities. These activities include those listed above, but are not limited to, and activities in a lower income neighborhood and among poor people in North Charleston, SC. I understand that participants are exposed to physical and psychological risk through elements of nature, travel by car, van, plane, walking, or other conveyance, and direct contact with people from various backgrounds. Risks may also include damage or loss of personal property.

In consideration of the above, I have and do hereby assume all the above risks and any other ordinary risk incidental to the nature of the program, including risks which are not specifically foreseeable, and will hold harmless and indemnify Metanoia, its Board of Directors, employees, agents, and/or Associates from any and all liability. The terms hereof, and my signature on this document shall serve as a release and assumption of risk, and shall bind my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns and for all members of my family, including any minors accompanying me. I also state that I am not under, and will not be under the influence of any non-prescribed chemical substance, including alcohol. I also state that I will assume responsibility for any damage or loss to physical property or expenses incurred due to negligent or irresponsible behavior. I understand that my participation in this Metanoia program or activity is entirely VOLUNTARY.

My signature also gives my permission and accepts financial responsibility, as well, for first aid treatment and/or professional medical attention if needed. I also give permission for photographing of myself or my child during the activities and use of those pictures or video by Metanoia.

PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE DATE WITNESS DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE DATE WITNESS DATE
FOR ANY PARTICIPANT UNDER AGE 18

Please print legibly - Each participant must complete this section:

Participant Name: Age: Phone:()

Address: City: Zip:

In case of emergency, please contact:

Phone: () Contact's relationship to participant: